

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A solution film-forming method for producing a cellulose acylate film ~~in which~~ comprising steps of:

(a) preparing a cellulose acylate solution; ~~is prepared and~~

(b) subjected to filtration filtering the cellulose acylate solution by a cake layer supported by a support, the cake layer being formed by pre-coating a filter aid to the support; and

(c) before subjected to film-forming a film from the cellulose acylate solution obtained in step (b), wherein a filter aid is used in the filtration.

2. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid has a composition including SiO<sub>2</sub> in 50% or more.

3. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid is a cellulose-based aid.

4. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid is a mixture of a cellulose-based aid and another aid including SiO<sub>2</sub> in 50% or more.

5. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid comprises a mixture of two or more filter aids.

6. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid has an average particle size in a range of from 1 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

7. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid has a standard deviation of particle size of 0.5 times an average particle size or smaller.

8. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid has a bulk density in a range of from 0.01 to 0.8  $\text{g/cm}^3$ .

9. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filter aid is added to the cellulose acylate solution in an amount of from 0.01 to 10% by weight.

10. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filtering step is carried out through a filtration support, the method further comprising, prior to the filtering step, a step of ~~is pre-coated~~ pre-coating the filtration support in a thickness of from 0.1 to 10 mm using a precoat liquid in which the filter aid is dispersed.

11. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 10, wherein the precoat liquid has a terminal velocity of the filter aid in a range of from  $10^{-4}$  to 1 cm/s.

12. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filtering step is carried out through a filtration support, the method further comprising, prior to the filtering step, a step of ~~is pre-coated~~ precoating the filtration support in a mass of from 0.1 to 5 kg/m<sup>2</sup> using a precoat liquid in which the filter aid is dispersed.

13. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 12, wherein the precoat liquid has a terminal velocity of the filter aid in a range of from 10<sup>-4</sup> to 1 cm/s.

14. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein a flow rate in the ~~filtration~~ filtering step is in a range of from 0.1 to 50 cm/hr.

15. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein initial pressure difference in the ~~filtration~~ filtering step is in a range of from 0.01 to 1 MPa.

16. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein filtration pressure in the filtering step ~~filtration~~ is in a range of from 0.01 to 4 MPa.

17. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein pressure difference in the filtering step ~~filtration~~ is in a range of from 0.01 to 3 MPa.

18. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of a cake layer formed in the filtering step ~~filtration~~ is in a range of from 0.1 to 80 mm.

19. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~filtration~~ filtering step is carried out in a pressure condition where the cellulose acylate solution does not boil and at a temperature 20°C lower than a boiling point of the cellulose acylate solution at normal pressure or higher.

20. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filtering step comprises steps of:

(i) dispersing the filter aid ~~is dispersed~~ in the cellulose acylate solution at a temperature in a range of from a boiling point of the cellulose acylate solution at normal pressure to a temperature 20°C lower than the boiling point, and

(ii) ~~the filtration is carried out after filtering the filter-aid dispersed cellulose acylate solution obtained in step (i) having a saturation of dissolved air bubble in the cellulose acylate solution is reached~~ of 90% or lower.

21. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~filtration is carried out~~ filtering step comprises steps of:

(i) ~~at a temperature lower than that for dispersing the filter aid in the cellulose acylate solution, and~~

(ii) filtering the filter-aid dispersed cellulose acylate solution obtained in step (i) at a temperature lower than that of step (i).

22. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein a concentration of the filter aid in the cellulose acylate solution is 10,000 particles/cm<sup>3</sup> or less after the ~~filtration~~ filtering step.

23. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising, prior to step (c), a step of post-filtering the cellulose acylate solution after the filtration~~ filtering step is subjected to post-filtration by through a filter having an absolute filtration accuracy of from 2 to 50 µm.

24. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filtering step is carried out in a filter machine, in which the filtration has been carried  
the method further comprising, following the filtering step, a step of out is backwashed  
backwashing the filter machine with by supplying a cleaning solvent, and the cleaning solvent is  
~~supplied~~ in circulation, in a pressure condition where the cleaning solvent does not boil, after being heated to a temperature 20°C lower than a boiling point of the cellulose acylate solution or higher.

25. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 24, wherein the cleaning solvent is a non-chlorine organic solvent.

26. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein the filtering step is carried out through a filtration support, the method further comprising, following the filtering step, a step of discharging a cake formed on a the filtration support by the filtration is discharged as a slurry having a concentration in a range of from 1 to 50 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

27. (original): The solution film-forming method according to claim 26, wherein the slurry is reused as at least one of a precoat liquid and a body feed liquid.

28. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 26, ~~wherein~~ further comprising, following the discharging step, steps of:

(i) separating the discharged slurry of the cake is separated to a solvent and the filter aid, and

(ii) burning the filter aid is then burned at 400°C or higher for reuse.

29. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 28, ~~wherein~~ further comprising, following the burning step, a step of mixing the burned filter aid is ~~mixed~~ with a virgin filter aid for use.

30. (currently amended): The solution film-forming method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the cellulose acylate solution that has been subjected to the filtration is formed to a film~~ the forming step is carried out by co-casting.

31. (withdrawn): A cellulose acylate film prepared in the solution film-forming method according to claim 1.

32. (withdrawn): The cellulose acylate film according to claim 31, wherein a number of bright point defects observed under crossed-Nicol having a size of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  or more is 0 defect/5  $\text{cm}^2$ , 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or more is 10 defects/5  $\text{cm}^2$  or less, and 5  $\mu\text{m}$  or more is 10 defects/5  $\text{cm}^2$  or less, a number being an average of five samples of 5  $\text{cm}^2$  in a width direction.